

City Manager's Blog

Deanna J. Santana

Week of January 22, 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION

Council Operational and Strategic Priority Setting Session: The City Manager had the opportunity to present information and seek feedback from Council and the public during the Operational and Strategic Priority Setting Session held last week. It was a very productive two-day session and the City plans to maximize resources to align with the Council adopted goals and initiatives while continuing to provide superb services to our community with setting the City on a strategic path into the future. All materials presented at the Retreat, as well as the video recordings, are available on the City's website at www.santaclaraca.gov/councilgoals



Be Prepared: With the recent 7.9 earthquake in the Gulf of Alaska and seismic activity in the Bay Area, there is heightened awareness of the fact that we live and work in earthquake country. Messaging on emergency preparedness tips including the importance of storing at least three days of water, non-perishable food and encouraging residents to register on [Alert SCC](#), a tool to issue important notices after a disaster is available on the City's website, social media and in the Winter/Spring edition of Inside Santa Clara. On January 23, City staff attended training on Personal Preparedness for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). On January 26, the Fire and Police Department had a demonstration on the Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD), a mass notification system used for emergency notification. Staff will assess the feasibility of obtaining this emergency warning device for Santa Clara.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is designed to help the citizens of Santa Clara to be self-sufficient after a major disaster. The community is invited to participate in the next FREE Disaster Preparedness Course on February 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at



the Fire Training Center located at 1900 Walsh Avenue. Register online or for more information, visit www.santaclaraca.gov/cert

Fire Department Graduation on January 27: On January 27, eight new Fire Department employees officially completed their sixteen-week Recruit Academy and graduate. These new firefighters will begin their new assignments working in neighborhood Fire Stations beginning on January 28, 2018.

Opportunity to Serve on City Commissions: The City invites the community to apply for two Commission vacancies. The Civil Service Commission has (1) one seat for a partial term ending June 30, 2018. Applications for the Civil Service Commission are due to the City Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. on February 13, 2018 with interviews at the City Council meeting on February 20, 2018. The Planning Commission has (1) one seat for a partial term ending June 30, 2021. Applications for the Planning Commission are due to the City Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2018 with interviews at the City Council meeting on March 6, 2018. Apply today by visiting www.santaclaraca.gov/commissions or contact the City Clerk's Office at (408) 615-2220.

Old Mountain View- Alviso Road Bridge Replacement Project Completion: A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on January 22 for the Old Mountain View-Alviso Road Bridge, which crosses Calabazas Creek. The City of Santa Clara and the City of Sunnyvale worked jointly on the replacement of the bridge and recently completed the replacement project. In addition to the bridge itself, the cities worked collaboratively on the construction of a water main intertie to increase operational flexibility in both cities' water distribution systems and to increase the ability to respond to water related emergencies. The new bridge is 52 feet wide, includes two 12-foot wide traffic lanes, two 7-foot wide shoulders/bike lanes, two 6-foot wide sidewalks, and two 1-foot thick barriers. The Project was funded by \$8.7M Federal Highway Bridge Program grant with a local share of \$565,000 by each City.



Coffee with a Cop: On January 18, the Santa Clara Police Department hosted a morning "Coffee with a Cop" event at the Starbucks located at 2221 The Alameda. This event brings police officers and the community members they serve together to discuss issues and learn more about each other. The event was well attended by community members.

Senior Center Receives National Recreation & Parks Association Grant: The Senior Center received a National Recreation & Parks Association (NRPA) grant for programs involving evidence based physical activity. Beginning in March, adults 50 years of age and older will be able to sign up for the "Active Living Every Day" class, which will be offered three times this year. Active "Living Every Day" is a unique, evidenced-based program that will teach individuals the skills to become and stay physically active. Based on the research study Project Active at



The Cooper Institute and led by trained instructors, students will explore topics such as overcoming barriers to physical activity, setting realistic goals, and building confidence.

Getting Fit with Therapeutic Recreation Services at the Senior Center: Participants were excited to get back into the Senior Center Fitness Center for the first day of Getting Fit! Therapeutic Recreation Services serves the recreational and social needs of individuals who have disabilities in Santa Clara. Meaningful and purposeful activities are planned that develop and enhance social skills, communication, personal growth, and focus on one's abilities rather than disabilities. The Getting Fit class provides the participants with the opportunity to work on their fitness goals, stay in shape, and socialize!



New Year, New Beginnings Held January 16 at the Senior Center: The Health & Wellness Program's monthly Table Talk for January focused on creating change and remembering that we have the power to live the lives we imagine. A Registered Nurse provided information about how to get off the couch and get moving, featuring our upcoming class, "Active Living Every Day."

Safety Talk at Walk a Block Held on January 17 at the Senior Center: On January 17, the Senior Center Walk a Block program was joined by two Santa Clara Police Officers on a stroll through the neighborhood and park. Officers shared with participants on how to take steps to increase awareness and protect oneself when out walking, being mindful of more cars on the road, distracted drivers, and quiet electric vehicles.



Super Smash Brothers 4 Tournament Held on January 19: The Teen Center's Super Smash Bros 4 Video Game Tournament held on January 19, was a hit! Wilcox and Santa Clara High School students filled the Teen Center with energy, excitement and competition. Players were treated to food, music, pool and table tennis in between matches. Wilcox took home the first place trophy. The high school students are excited for the spring tournament in March.

San Tomas and Monroe Neighborhood Park & Community Garden: Construction is underway at San Tomas Expressway and Monroe Street to build a new Neighborhood Park and Community Garden. This site will have the first Community Garden plots for Santa Clara residents. To join the Community Garden interest list, please call (408) 615-3140.

Platform Clinic Swim Meet Held on January 21: Divers participated in this USA Diving sanctioned clinic on January 21 at the International Swim Center. The clinic gave the divers an opportunity to practice diving on one of the three operational platforms in the entire Northern California region. Teams from Folsom, Sacramento and Modesto participated in the clinic.



Ulistac Natural Area: City staff removed 50 non-native trees and saplings at Ulistac Natural Area. This is consistent with the guidelines of the Master Plan. As non-native trees are removed, native trees are planted by staff and volunteers. On January 21, the Ulistac Area Restoration & Education Project (UNAREP) who works in partnership with the City, conducted a scheduled work day for volunteers. Volunteers laid out cardboard rolls in designated areas and applied a thick layer to mulch to suppress non-native plants and weeds. For more information, visit www.santaclaraca.gov/ulistac



Washington Park Ball Field Annual Renovation: The City is in the midst of renovating ball fields at Washington Park. During this time of year, ball fields are re-measured with precision, recut, re-sodded, re-seeded and baseball fields mounds are rebuilt. This provides park patrons and leagues with high quality fields to use during the season. City staff are trained on field maintenance, and field layout and renovation procedures on a continuous basis.

Water, Sewer & Recycled Water Rate Study: On an annual basis, the City provides the Council with recommendations for updated rates for water, sewer, and recycled water services for Santa Clara residents and businesses. As a best management practice, the City utilizes industry experts as part of the rate setting process to assist with the analysis and methodologies used to set rates. City Water and Sewer Utilities staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on October 6, 2017 for Water, Sewer & Recycled Water Rate Study and received seven (7) proposals on October 27, 2017. The City entered into an agreement with Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC on December 22, 2017, in the amount of \$104,000. Major objectives of this rate study include development of a multi-year financial plan that will meet expenditures, cost-based rate analysis, and rate recommendations. The study being conducted will include public outreach to residents and commercial customers and inform the Council regarding rates set to be effective on July 1, 2018.

Silicon Valley Power Bond Rating Upgrade: Fitch Ratings upgraded Silicon Valley Power's Electric Revenue bond issuer rating to "AA-" from "A+" on Friday morning. This reflects the stronger financial position that SVP achieved in 2017 through cost management and load growth. On January 23, S&P Global Ratings revised its outlook to stable from negative and affirmed SVP's "A+" long-term rating and underlying rating. These rating actions carried through to joint generation projects of which SVP is a partial participant with other utilities. This positive news reduces SVP's cost of borrowed money on existing refinancing options and any future bonds.

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

Join the Center of What's Possible! We are currently hiring for the following positions at the City of Santa Clara. To view job descriptions and for information on how to apply, please visit:

www.santaclaraca.gov/jobs

As-Needed Instructor/Lifeguard	Journey Lineworker
As-Needed Laborer	Per Diem Police Officer Special Events – As
As-Needed Meter Reader	Needed
Assistant Director of Public Works/City	Police Officer
Engineer	Public Safety Dispatcher II
Electrician	Recreation Coordinator
Forensic Coordinator	Recreation Leader III
Information Technology Services Intern	Recruit Police Officer

RESPONSES TO COUNCIL INQUIRIES

Ongoing Project at 1075 Pomeroy Ave: The project is a proposed Planned Development Rezoning from R3-18D and Tentative Parcel Map to allow construction of four detached single-family homes. This item was referred by the City Council to the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) on November 21, 2017 for review of the project architecture based on its adjacency to Pomeroy Green, a potentially historic development.

As an update, the project was referred to HLC on January 4. HLC supported the project with the following recommendations: 1) City Council to consider the Pomeroy Green and Pomeroy West as potentially historically resource (this would require a formal application from the property owners of each development), 2) increase setbacks to allow more solar access to adjacent open space, 3) reduce the roof slope of the angled asymmetrical roof feature, reduce overall height, reduce use of stucco, and reconsider use of horizontal siding, consider carports instead of garages and revise the window configuration and placement to be more consistent with window geometry of the adjacent development, 4) conduct a community meeting with staff facilitating the discussion of design compatibility, and 5) bring back revisions to HLC for review and recommendation. The project is tentatively scheduled for the City Council meeting of March 6, 2018 to consider the HLC recommendations.

Ongoing Project at 281 Serena Way: This project is a proposed Rezoning from R1-6L (Single-Family Zoning District) to the General Office (OG) Zoning District, and a Use Permit to allow the conversion of an existing single-family residence to daycare use with an outdoor play area.

Status: The application has been in process for more than six months and originally received support from neighbors. However, beginning in early January, following the mailing of the public notice for the Planning Commission (PC) hearing, additional letters of opposition from neighbor have been received. The concerns from the neighbors relate to existing parking and traffic problems with nearby car dealerships and cut through travel off of Stevens Creek, additional traffic from drop offs and pickups of children to the day care, and the zone change to a non-



residential use on a predominately residential street. The PC hearing is scheduled for January 24, 2018.

As an update, in accordance with the City Council direction from the meeting of January 23, staff prepared a memo requesting the appointment of one member from the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) to serve on the El Camino Real Specific Plan Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The appointment request was added to the agenda for the HLC meeting on February 1, 2018.

Proposed Development for 3005 Democracy Way: At the Council meeting this week, Council allowed the continued processing of an application for a proposed General Plan Amendment for the project located at 3005 Democracy Way. For more information visit the City's website, <http://santaclaraca.gov/government/departments/community-development/planning-division/development-activity/proposed-development-project-page-kylli>

LEVI'S STADIUM RELATED UPDATES

Upcoming Stadium Events:

February 24, 2018: Bacon and Beer Classic

March 23, 2018: Mexican National Soccer Team Game

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Community Meeting for 3575 De La Cruz Boulevard on January 29: The community is invited to provide feedback regarding the development of a request for proposals (RFP) for the city owned property at 3575 De La Cruz Boulevard for the development of affordable housing. The meeting will be on January 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Northside Branch Library located at 695 Moreland Way.

Chat with the Chief on January 31: The next Chat with the Chief will be held on January 31 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Maywood Park Building located at 3330 Pruneridge Avenue. This program provides residents with an opportunity to personally meet the Chief and other law enforcement representatives in a friendly, casual setting. Residents are invited to come discuss community matters of interest and meet other people committed to public safety. No RSVP is necessary.

Kids Rock on February 3: This event will be held on February 3 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., at the Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center (YAC) located at 2450 Cabrillo Avenue. Kids Rock is an event for kids in grades K-5 to enjoy a special night of activities that will include recreation games, arts & crafts, a jump house, slice of pizza & juice, and tons of fun! For more information and registration, visit www.santaclaraca.gov/kidsrock

El Camino Real Specific Plan Outreach Activities: Upcoming events are being held to gather feedback from the public about the vision for the El Camino Real specific plan. Upcoming events include:



- February 28, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Community Workshop at Central Park Library, Redwood Room
- On-line survey available thru January 31, 2018 at www.santaclaraca.gov/survey

Community Meetings on Smoking Ordinance: The City is considering expanding its smoking ordinances to limit or ban smoking of cigars, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and any other tobacco or cannabis products in additional outdoor public spaces as well as private units of multi-family housing. The public is invited to attend a community meeting to learn more about these proposed changes and provide feedback on potential changes to the ordinance. An online survey is also available at: www.santaclaraca.gov/smoking

- February 1, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Council Chambers located at 1500 Warburton Ave.
- February 1, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Northside Branch Library located at 695 Moreland Way (Northside Community Room)
- February 7, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers located at 1500 Warburton Ave.

Community Meetings on Cannabis Regulation: California State law allows local governments to regulate commercial cannabis activities in their respective jurisdictions. The City has recently launched plans to develop regulations for cannabis activity. The public is invited to attend a community meeting to learn about the cannabis industry, the City's upcoming efforts, and to provide early feedback on the development of regulations. More community meetings will be held in April prior to City Council's consideration of a new ordinance.

- February 12, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Council Chambers located at 1500 Warburton Ave.
- February 15, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Central Library located at 2635 Homestead Road (Margie Edinger Room)

Contact Information:

City Manager's Office
(408) 615-2210 manager@santaclaraca.gov

